
A
JOURNEY
TO
ENGLAND, &c.

Read this and you will

J. COLLIER
AT
NEW YORK, &c.

A
JOURNEY
TO
ENGLAND.

With some
ACCOUNT
OF THE
Manners and Customs of
that NATION.

Written at the Command of a Nobleman
in *France*.

Made *English*.

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W. King
Quincy

TO THE
READER.

W*Hen I first chanced upon
this severe piece, and
read it in the Language it was sent
me, I was so much concern'd for the
honour of our Country, that it was
my resolution to suppress the Pub-
lication of our Shame, as conceiving
it an Act of great Inhumanity;
But upon second, and more impar-
tial Thoughts, I have been tempted
to make it speak English, and
give it Liberty, not to reproach,
but to instruct our Nation, remem-
bring what the Wise-Man hath
said, Open rebuke is better than
secret*

To the Reader.

secret Love. Prov. 27. 5. The truth is, I cannot say but the particulars, are most of them, very home; and which we may no way evade, without acknowledging, at least, that the Gentleman (whoever he were) made notable use of his time, but best of all, by setting upon an effectual redress of what is amiss. And though I doubt not, but one might easily retort in as many instances, upon defects as great (if not greater) of that Nation; (for he that finds fault, had need be perfect) yet were it then fittest to do it, and to revenge this Charitable Office, when we shall have first reformed our selves.

Farewel.

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A

A
JOURNEY
TO
ENGLAND, &c.

MY LORD,

YOU Command me to give you a Minute account of what I observed, and how I passed that little time which I lately spent in *England*; a Country, whose *Character* you so greatly desire to be informed of, in a Conjunction (as you rightly deduce) of strange Vicissitude, and indeed they are a People of all the World most fond of alterations; And to whom, My Lord, should I more readily submit? First, encourag'd to make this excursion by
B your

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your Lordship, who had formerly beheld, and so much admir'd the Splendor and Magnificence of this Court, and Kingdom in its greatest *Acme* and Lustre. But, My Lord, I cannot imagine, that you should esteem me either of Years, or Capacity to inform You, whose Judgment is so Mature, and Correspondence so universal, as that there is nothing which can escape your Cognizance, not only in that *Island*, but in all the VWorld besides. But since you oblige me not to dip into the Transactions of State, the effects of Providence, Time, and other Notices of a Superiour Orb; and in which you cannot be instructed by so weak an instrument as your Servant; and demand only the little *Remarks* of my hasty, and desultory *Peregrination*; though I cannot pretend to improve your *Lordship's* Knowledge, yet I may hope to give it diversion, and an *Essay* of my Obedience.

It must be avowed that *England* is a Sweet, and Fertile Country.

Terra potens armis, atque ubere gleba.
That

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That the Fields, the Hills, and the Val-^{Descripti-}
lies are perpetually clad with a glori-^{on of the}
ous, and agreeable Verdure; that her Country.
Provisions are plentiful; her Staples
important; and her interest very con-
siderable; not omitting the most Beau-
tiful *Ladies*, I had almost said, of the
VWorld, but for a just respect due to ^{Beauty of}
the Illustrious *Circles* of our Court, ^{the Ladies}
where the Beauties of Conversation,
so far transcend the tinctures of Lillies
and Roses. But these, My Lord, are
not the *Memoirs* which you demand;
I will therefore hasten to my *Post*.

After a short Passage from *Calais*, ^{Rudeness}
we came on shore at *Dover*, where ^{of the Eng-}
the People of the Town entertain'd us ^{lish.}
with such suspicious and forbidding
Countenances, whispering, and stiff
Postures, that I should never have
believed so great a difference in the Ad-
dresses of two Nations, could have
been produced by so short a trajecti-
on, and in a Port continually accu-
stom'd to the Faces of Strangers, had
not the contrary humours of our con-
tiguous Neighbours, the *Spaniards*,
made it possible, in so many pleasant
B 2 instances,

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instances. But I was amazed, when we had taken *Post*, and scarce out of the *Village*, at the Acclamations of the Boys, running after, and affrighting our Horses, hooting, and crying out, *French Dogs, French Dogs, a Monsieur, Monsieur!* By a particular expression of Welcome, which other People would interpret Derision; But in this Triumph (though somewhat late e'er we set out of *Dover*) we attain'd as far as *Rocheſter* the first night, where, how new a thing it appeared to me, to see my confident *Host* set him down cheek by jowl by me, belching, and puffing *Tobacco* in my Face, you may easily imagine, till I afterwards found it to be the usual stile of this Country; and that the *Gentlemen*, who lodge at their *Inns*, entertain themselves in their Company, and are much pleas'd with their impertinences: Arriv'd at the *Metropolis* of civility, *London*, we put our selves in *Coach*, with some Persons of Quality, who came to conduct us to our Lodging; but neither was this passage without honours done to us, the

Confidence of
the Inn-
Keepers.

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the Kennel dirt, and roots being favours which were frequently cast at us by the Children, and Apprentices without reproof; Civilities, that in *Paris*, a *Gentleman* as seldom meets withal, as with the contests of *Car-Men*, who in this Town domineer in the Streets, o'er-throw the *Hell-Carts* (for so they name the *Coaches*) Cursing, and reviling at the *Nobles*: You would imagine yourself amongst a *Legion of Devils*, and in the suburb of *Hell*. I have greatly wondered at the remisness of the *Magistrate*, and the temper of the *Gentlemen*, and that the *Citizens*, who subsist only upon them, should permit so great a disorder, rather joining in the affronts, than at all chastizing the Inhumanity. But, these are the natural effects of Parity, popular Libertinism, and Insulary Manners.

The Ill manners of the Commonalty at London.

I find, as you told me, My Lord, *London* to be a Town so nobly Scituated, and upon such a River, as *Europe* certainly shews not one more useful and agreeable; Their *Fountains*, which are the Pride and Grace of our Streets, and plentifully supplied in this *City*,
are

Description of London.

are here immur'd, to secure the Waters from, I know not what, impurities : But certainly, it do's greatly detract from the beauty of the *Carfours*, and intercepts the view.

Amongst the piece of *Modern Architecture*, I have never observ'd above two, which were Remarkable in this vast *City*. The Church of *St. Paul's*, and the Banqueting-House at *White-Hall*, of which I remember to have heard your *Lordship* speak : But you would be amaz'd at the *genius* of these People, that not much above forty Years ago should suffer this goodly and venerable Fabrick, to be built about and converted into raskally *Ware-Houses*, and so sordidly obscur'd and defac'd, that an argument of greater Avarice, Malice, Meanness, and deformity of Mind, cannot possibly be expressed : Nothing here of Ornament, nothing of Magnificence, (only a heavy piece of Architecture ;) no publick and honourable Works, such as render our *Paris*, and other *Cities* of *France*, renowned, and visited by all the World ; emulating even *Italy* herself,

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herself, for her *Palaces*, uniform and conspicuous Structures: I assure your *Lordship*, that *England* is the sole spot in all the *World*, where among *Christians* their *Churches* have been made *Jakes*, and *Stables*, *Markets* and *Tipling-Houses*; and where there were more need of *Scorpions*, than *Thongs*, to drive out the *Publicans* and *Money-Changers*: In sum, where these excellent uses, are pretended to be the Marks of *Piety* and *Reformation*. I had sometimes the curiosity to visit the several *Worships* of these *Equivocal Christians*, and *Enthusiasts*: But I extremely wondred to find those, whom they call *Presbyterians*, and that would imitate us of the *Religion* in *France* and *Geneva*, to have their *Discipline* so confused and different. In this remark, My Lord, to be somewhat more particular, you will not be displeas'd; because it was a thing you so much recommended to my especial Notice. *Form*, they observe none; They pray and read without method, and indeed, without Reverence or Devotion; I have

Descripti-
on of the
Presbyte-
rians.

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have beheld a whole Congrégation sit on their---with their Hats on, at the reading of the *Psalms*, and yet bare-headed when they sing them, in divers places they read not the *Scriptures* at all; but up into the *Pulpit*, where they make an insipid, tedious and immethodical *Prayer*, in Phrases, and a tone so affected and mysterious, that they give it the name of *Canting*, a term by which they do usually express the *Gibbrish* of Beggars and Vagabonds; after which, there follows the *Sermon*, consisting (like their Prayers) of *Speculative* and *Abstracted* Notions, and things, which, nor the People, nor themselves, well understand: But these they extend to an extraordinary length, and *Pharisaical* repetitions; 'till almost they sleep; I am sure, 'till their Auditors do.

The *Minister* uses no Habit of distinction, or gravity, but steps up in *querpo*; and when he lays by his *Cloak* (as I have observed some of them) he has the action rather of a *Thraasher*, than a *Divine*; this they call

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call *taking pains*, and indeed it is so, to those that hear them: But thus they have now encouraged every pert *Mechanick* to invade, affront and out-preach them; and having cancel'd all manner of decency, prostituted both their Persons and Function to usurpation, penury and derision. You may well imagine by the manners of the People, and their prodigious Opinions, that there is no *Catechisms*, nor *Sacraments* duly Administred: *The Religion of England is Preaching, and sitting still on Sundays.* How they Baptize I know not, because the Congregation is dismissed, and they agree in no form; and for the other *Sacraments*, no Man gives, or receives alike: Such of their Churches as I have frequented, were dammed up with *Pues*, every three or four of the Inhabitants, sitting in narrow *Pounds* or *Pulpits*, by themselves; for they are all turn'd *Preachers* now. In short, there is nothing more unlike to our reformed Churches in *France*, and I think in all *Europe* beside; the apprehension of *Popery*, or fondness to their own ima-

C

gination;

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ginations, having carry'd them so far to the other extream, that they have now lost all Moderation, and Decorum; And I have been herein, My Lord, the more industrious to inform my self of each particular; because it seems yet to be as publick as the *Religion* of the State. Some of their own party, I have heard deplore this confusion, but certainly, they themselves gave the first occasion to these Monstrous Liberties, by a Rigid, and Uncharitable Discipline; primarily (it seems) introduced by the *Scots*, and so refined upon by these, as there are few or none that will submit to the Tyranny; but every one takes his own course, and has protection for it. Some well natur'd abused Men I have met withal among them; but, if I mistake not, for the greater Ingredient, Ambitious, Ignorant, Overweening, Sower, and Uncharitable, *ne quid asperius*, combining with the interest of the times, and, who to render themselves powerful, have in compliances with the Spiritual Pride of the *Mechanicks* and Corporations, con-

niv'd

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niv'd at those many, and prodigious *Schisms* and *Heresies* which are now spawn'd under them in such numbers, as give terrour to the State. I omit to tell your Lordship that few take Notice of the *Lord's-Prayer*; it is esteem'd a kind of weakness to use it, but the *Creed* and the *Decalogue* are not once heard of in their Congregations; This is Milk for *Babes*, and these are all *Giants*. They do frequently Solemnize their late *National* deliverances, and some days of *Christian Bloodshed*, with all possible exactness. But they think it gross *Idolatry* to join with the whole *Christian Church* of all Professions under Heaven, in the *Anniversaries* of our B. Saviours *Incarnation*, *Passion*, *Resurrection*, and descent of the *Holy Ghost*, Spiritual, Eternal, and never to be forgotten Mercies. Would your Lordship believe that this madness should advance so far, as to disturb the *French-Church* there, which you know, does in all places observe those signal Deliverances and Blessings, both by *Preaching*, *Prayer*, *Sacraments*

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ments and Exhortations, apposite to to the Occasion; What think you will be the issue of this goodly Reformation? I could tell you more of the *Mysterious Classis*; their ridiculous, insidiary, and presumptuous Questions; their unheard of Animosities against their Brethern of the *Church of England*, suffering themselves to be rather torn in sunder by the *Sectaries*, *Demetrius* and the *Crafts-Men*, whilst they contend about trifles and meer shadows.

Descripti-
of the In-
depend-
ents,
Anabap-
tists,
Quakers,
&c.

Concerning the *Independents*, all I can learn is; They are a refined, and Apostate sort of *Presbyters*; or, rather such as renounces all Ordination, as who having Preached promiscuously to the People, and cunningly ensnared a Select number of Rich, and ignorant Profelytes, separate themselves into *Conventicles*, which they name *Congregations*. There is nothing does more resemble this *Sect*, than our Rom. *Missionaries* sent out *in partibus Infidelium*; for they take all other *Christians* to be *Heathens*. These are those great Pretenders to the *Spirit*,
into

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into whose Party, does the vilest Person living, no sooner ascribe himself, but he is, *ipso facto*, but a Saint, hallow'd, and dear to God. These, are the confidents, who can design the *minute*, the *place*, and the *means* of their Conversion: A *Schism* full of Spiritual disdain, incharity, and high imposture: But every alteration of *State*, destroying the interest of the versatile Contrivers, they are as ready to *Transmigrate* into the next more thriving Fraternity, as the *Souls* of Pythagoras into Beasts, and may then perhaps, assume some other *Title*, This is a sad, but serious truth, and not a little menaces the common *Christianity*, unless timely prevented. But, Sir, I will not longer tire your patience with these *Monsters* (the subject of every contemptuous *Pamphlet*) nor with the madness of the *Anabaptists*, *Quakers*, (which are increased to a prodigious number) *Fifth Monarchy-Men*, and a *Cento* of unheard of *Heresies* besides, which, at present, deform the once renowned *Church of England*; and approach so little the pretended

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tended *Reformation*, which we in *France* have been made to believe they are arrived to.

Of the
Cough.

But I have dwelt too long on this remark, I return to the Town, where they are pestred with *Hackney-Coaches*, and insolent *Car-Men*, *Shops*, and *Taverns*, *Noise*, and such a cloud of of *Sea-Coals*, that if there be a resemblance of *Hell* upon Earth, it is in this *Vulcans* in a *Foggy Day*: This pestilent *Smoak*, so fatally seizes on the *Lungs* of the *Inhabitants*, that the *Cough*, and the *Consumption* spare no Man. I have been in a spacious *Church*, where I could not hear the *Minister* for the *Peoples Barking*.

Of their
Ale.

There is within this *City*, and in all the *Towns* of *England* (which I have passed through) so prodigious a number of *Houses* where they sell a certain Drink called *Ale*, that I think a good half of the *Inhabitants* may be *Denominated Ale-House-Keepers*, these are a meaner sort of *Cabarets*: But what is most deplorable, where some *Gentlemen* sit (especially in the *Country*) and spend much of their time ;
drinking

drinking of a muddy kind of *Beverage*, and *Tobacco*, which has, universally besotted the *Nation*, and at which (I hear) they have consumed many noble Estates. As for other *Taverns*,^{Of their Taverns!} *London* is Compos'd of them, where they drink *Spanish* and *Red-Wines*, and other Sophisticated Liquors to that fury and intemperance, as has often amaz'd me to consider it: But thus some mean Fellow, the *Drawer*, arrives to an Estate, some of them having built fair Houses, and purchased those *Gentlemen* out of their Possessions, who have ruined themselves by that base and dishonourable Nice of Ebriety: And that nothing may be wanting to the height of Luxury and Impiety of this *Abomination*, they have translated the *Organs* out of the *Churches*, to set them up in *Taverns*, and even a worse sort of *Tipling-Houses*, chanting their *Dithyrambicks*, and bestial *Bacchanalias*, to the Tune of those *Instruments*, which were wont to assist them, in the Celebration of God's Praises, and regulate the Voices of the worst Singers in the World,

Women
at Ta-
verns, and
Drink
Healths.

World, which are the *English* in their *Churches* at present; I cannot but commend the *Reformed* in *Holland*, who still retain their *Organs* in the *Churches*, and make use of them at the *Psalms*, without any Opinion of Superstition; and I once remember to have heard the Famous *Diodati* wish they might be introduc'd even at *Geneva*. A great error undoubtedly in those who sit at the Helm, to permit this scandal; to suffer so many of these *Taverns* and occasions of Intemperance, such Leaches, and Vipers; to gratifie so fordid and base a sort of People with the spoils of honest, and well Natur'd Men. Your *Lordship*, will not believe me that the *Ladies* of greatest Quality, suffer themselves to be treated in one of these *Taverns*, where a *Curtesan* in other *Cities* would scarcely vouchsafe to be entertained: But you will be more astonish'd when I shall assure you, that they drink their *Crowned Cups*, and roundly, strain Healths through their *Smocks*, Dance after the Fiddle, Kiss freely, and term it an honourable

honourable *Treat*. But all this my Experience, particular address, and habitudes with the greatest of that Nation has assur'd me, that it is not the pass time, only of the inferiour and *Meretricious* sort; since I find it a chief suppletory at all their Entertainments, to drink Excessively, and that in their own Houses, before the *Ladies*, and the *Lacques*: It is the Afternoons diversion; whether for want of better to employ the time, or affection to the drink, I know not: But I have found some Persons of Quality, who one could not safely visit after Dinner, without resolving to undergo this *Drink Ordel*, and endure the Question: It is esteem'd a piece of Wit, to make a Man Drunk, for which some swelling insipid *Client*, or *Congiarie*, is a frequent and constant *adjutant*, Your *Lordship* may hence well imagine, how heavy, dull, and insignificant the Conversation is; loud, querillous, and impertinent. I shall relate a story that once happened in my presence, at a *Gentleman's* House in the *Country*, where there was

Of the
hard
Drinking
at private
Houses.

much Company and Feasting. I chanced to come at Dinner-Time, and after the Cloth was taken away (as the manner is) they fell to their laudable Exercise: But I unacquainted then with their Custom, was lead up into a *With-Drawing-Room*, where I had the Permission (with a Noble Person who introduced me) to sit and converse with the *Ladies*, who were thither retired; the *Gentleman* of the House leaving us in the mean time, to Entertain his Friends below: But you may imagine how strangely I was astonish'd; to see within an hour after, one of the Company that had Dined there, entering into the Room all bloody, and disorder'd, to fetch a Sword which lay in one of the Windows, and three or four of his Companions, whom the Fumes of the Wine had inspirited, pursuing, and dragging him by the Hair, till in this confusion, one of their Spurs engaged into a Carpet, upon which stood a very fair *Looking-Glass*, and two noble pieces of *Porcelain*, drew all to the ground, broke the *Glass*, and the
Vases

Of the
 quarelling
 among the
 English.

Vases in pieces; and all this on such an instant, that the *Gentleman* and my self, had much ado to rescue the affrighted *Ladies* from suffering in the tumult; but at last we prevailed, and brought them to terms, the quarrel concerning an *Health* only, which one of them would have shifted. I don't remember, My Lord, ever to have known (or very rarely) a *Health* Drank in *France*, no not the *King's*; and if we say *A vostre sante Monsieur*, it neither expects Pledge, or Ceremony. 'Tis here so the Custom to Drink to every one at the *Table*, that by the time a *Gentleman* has done his Duty to the whole Company, he is ready to fall asleep, whereas with us, we salute the whole *Table* with a single Glass only. But, My Lord, was not this, imagine you, an admirable *Scene* and very Extraordinary? I confess, the *Lady* of the House being much out of Countenance at what had happened, profered to excuse this disorder, and I was as ready to receive it, till several encounters confirmed me, that they were but

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Younger
Brothers
Rob on
the High-
Way.

too frequent, and that there was a sort of perfect *Debauchees*, who stile themselves *Hectors*, that in their mad and unheard of *Revils*, pierce their Veins to quaff their own *Blood*, which some of them have Drank to that excess, that they died of the intemperance; These are a professed *Atheistical* Order of *Bravo's*, compos'd for the most of *Cadets*, who spending beyond their *Pensions*, to supply their extravagances, practise now and then the High-Way, where they sometimes borrow, that which they often repay at the *Gibbet*; an Ignominious Trade, unheard of amongst our Gallant *Nobles*; however Fortune reduce them. But I know not whether I might not here Match these Valiant *Hero's*, with an avowed Society of *Ladies*, and some of them not of the meanest for Birth (I even blush to recount it of that Fair Sex) who boast of making all advantages at *Play*, and are become so Dextrous at it, that seldom they make a sitting, without design and Booty; For there is here, My Lord, no such thing as Courtship, after

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ter the decent mode of our *Circles* ; for either being mingled in a Room, the *Gentlemen* separate from the Conversation of the *Ladies*, to Drink, as before I related ; or else to Whisper with one another at some Carner, or Bay-Window, abandoning the *Ladies* to Gossip by themselves, which is a Custom so strange to a *Gallant* of our *Nation*, as nothing appears more barbarous and undecent ; and this in effect must needs be the reason, that these Beautiful Creatures want assurance, address, and the charming Discourse of our *Damoisels*, which are faculties so shining, and agreeable in their Sex with us in *France* : And in truth even the *Gentlemen* themselves, are greatly defective as to this particular, ill Courtiers, Unpliant, Morose, and of Vulgar address ; generally, not so polished, free, and serene, as is universally found, even amongst the most inferiour of our *Nation*. I am not ignorant that they impute it to a certain levity in us ; but it is a mistake in them, and that because they so hardly reform it, without

The Ladies want Address, and Confidence.

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Have no
Standard
for Dref-
sing.

Old Wo-
men in
Coloured
Clothes.

out some ridiculous affectation, as is conspicuous in their several *Modes* and *Dresses*, which they vary ten times for our once; every one affecting something particular; as having no Standard at *Court*, which should give *Laws*, and Countenance the Fashion. The *Women* are much affected with *Gaudry*, there being nothing more frequent than to see an Ancient Lady wear Colours, a thing which neither Young, nor Old of either Sex do with us, save in the Country, and the *Camp*; but *Widows* at no time. And yet reprove they us for these Exorbitances; but I have often disputed the case: Either we do ill, or well; if ill, why then do they *ape us*? if well, why do they reproach us? The truth is, they have no Moderation, and are neither so lucky, nor frugal as our *Ladies* are in these Sumptuary expences; and whereof the *Magistrates* takes so little Cognisance, that it is not an easie matter to distinguish the *Lady* from the *Chamber-Maid*; Servants being suffered in this brave Country, to go clad like their Mistresses,

ses, a thing neither decent, nor permitted in *France*, where they may wear neither Lace, nor Silk.

I may not forget to acquaint your *Lordship*, that though the *Ladies*, and the *Gentlemen* are so shie of one another, yet when once they grow acquainted, it passes into expressions, and compellations extreamly new to our usages, and the stile of our Country: Do but imagine how it would become our *Ladies*, to call *Monsieur* N--- *Jack* N. what more frequent than this? *Tom*. P--- was here to Day; I went Yesterday to the * *Cours* * A place near Paris like Hide-Park. with *Will*. R--- *Henry* M--- treated me at such a *Tavern*; These are the particular *Idioms*, and graceful *Confidences* now in use; introduced I conceive at first by some *Camerades* one with another; but it is mean and rude, and such as our *Lacques*, would almost disdain in *Paris*; where I have often observed two *Chimney-Sweepers*, accost one another, in better *Forms*, and Civiller Addresses. But to be confident and civil, is not a thing
so

so easily understood, and, seems a peculiar talent of our Nation.

Some of
the Lords
surley.

However the *Ladies* are not more obliging and Familiar, than the *Lords* are difficult and inaccessible; for though by reason of my Birth, and Quality, my recommendations and addressees, I found some tolerable reception amongst them; yet I observ'd, that they kept at such a surly distance with the *Gentlemen*, even of Family, that methought I never beheld a ruder Conversation; especially; when comparing their Parts, and Educations, I found them generally so much inferiour, as if a *Lord* were indeed other than a *Gentleman*; or a *Gentleman's* not fit Companion for a *King*: But this must needs be the result of an ill, and haughty institution, and for that most of these great Persons are in their Minority, and the Age wherein they should be furnished with the noblest impressions, taught only to converse with their Servants, some *Sycophants*, and under the Regiment of a *Pedant*, which imprints that scornfulness and folly, and fits them
with

with no better forms when they should produce themselves, and give testimony to others, as well of their Superiority in Virtue, as in Birth, and Dignity. But this is, My Lord, a particular, which I have heard you often complain of, and which we do frequently take notice of, at their coming abroad into our Country; where for want of address, and fit Persons to introduce them, they seldom return more refined than they came, else they could not but have observ'd, that there is nothing which makes the distinction of *Nobles* in *France*, but the *Title*, and that his *Majesty* himself does them the honours, which here they usurp upon their equals; But, My Lord, they are sufficiently punished for it in *England*: Where, to me they appear so degenerate, for want of this humility and free Conversation; by which, and their other Vices, they grow now so much despised, that the *Gentlemen* need seek no Revenge: For though (as I told you) the *Gentlemen* are most of them very intemperate, yet

E

the

Whence
the Pro-
verb, *As
Drunk as a
Lord.*

the *Proverb* goes, *As Drunk as a Lord.* But, My *Lord*, as there is no rule so general, but it does admit of exceptions, so should I give my own Experience, as well as your *Lordships* the contradiction, to make the Censure Universal; there being even amongst *these*, some *few*, and in particular my *L. P.* my *L. M.* my *L. D.* &c. whom I esteem to be very noble, and accomplished Persons, as who have learned (by the good Fortune of a better Education) how to value the Conversations of worthy Men, and who indeed, do sufficiently verifie all those *Attributes* which are due to their *Qualities*, and therefore whom this *Paragraph* does no ways concern.

Nor should I be less severe and unjust, totally to exclude even some of the *Ladies* from the Advantages of this *Period*, whose perfections and Virtues, claim an equal right to all that I have here spoken, out of a due resentment of their Merits and Excellencies.

It

It was frequently, during the last ^{Their} *Winter*, that I was carried to their ^{Balls.} *Balls*, as where indeed, I expected to see what should appear the most of Gallant, and Splendid amongst the *Ladies*, nor really did my expectations deceive me; for there was a confluence of very great Beauties, to which the glistering of their Jewels (which upon this occasion they want not) could add nothing save their *Weight*; the various Habits being so particular, as if by some strange *Inchantment*, they had encountered, and come out of several Nations: But I was astonish'd to see, when they were ready to move, that a *Dancing-Master*, had the boldness to take forth the greatest *Ladies*, and they again the *Dancing-Master*, who performed the most part of the *Ball*, whilst the *Gentlemen*, that were present, were the least concerned, and stood looking on; so as it appeared to me more like the *Farce* of a *Comedy*, than a *Ball* of the *Nobles*, and in truth, their measures, when any of them were taken out, made me somewhat ashamed, to lead a *Lady* who did

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The Insolence of the Dancing Masters.

me the honour, for fear (though my skill is very vulgar in that exercise) they should have taken *me* for a *Dancing-Master*, as who had happily imploy'd my Youth so ill, as to have some advantage of the rest in that faculty. This favour is particular to the *Dancing-Masters* in this Country; and Reason good; for they have such ample *Salaries*, as maintains both their Prodigality, and an Insolence, that were insupportable in *France*, where these trifling Fellows do better know themselves, are worse payed, and less Presumptuous. Nay, so remiss are the *Ladies*, of their respect in this instance, that they not only entertain all this; but permit themselves likewise to be invited, and often honour these impertinent *Fantasticks*, by receiving the *Ball* at their Petty *Schools*.

The English Bunglers at Rallery.

When this Ceremony was ended, some of the *Gallants* fell to other *Recreations*, and as far as I understood, were Offering at that Innocent, yet Salt, and Pleasant diversion, which in *France* is called *Rallery*; but so far were

were they from maintaining it within the decencies, and Laws, which both in *that*, and our *Characters* we observe; that in a little time, they fell so upon personal abusing one another, that there was much ado to preserve the Peace, and as I heard, it was the next Day, the product of a Quarrel, and a *Duel*.

I did frequently in the Spring, Accompany My Lord N. into a Field, near the Town, which they call *Hide-Park*; the place not unpleasant, and which they use, as our *Course*; but not with that Order, Equipage, and Splendor; there being an Assembly of such wretched *Jades*, and *Hackney-Coaches*, as quite takes away the resemblance.

The next place to be remembred is the *Spring-Garden*, so called, and in order to the *Park*, as our *Thuilleries* is to the *Course*, the inclosure not disagreeable, for the solemnness of the *Grove*, the warbling of the Birds; but the Company Walk in it at such a rate, as you would think all the *Ladies* were so many *Atalanta's*, contending

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tending with their *Wooers*; and my Lord, there was no appearance, that I should prove the *Hippomenes*, who could with very much ado, keep pace with them: But as fast as they run; they stay there so long, as if they wanted not time to finish the *Race*; for it is usual *here* to find some of the Young Company till midnight; and the Thickets of the *Garden* seem to be contrived to all Advantages of *Gallantry*, after they have been refreshed with the *Collation*, which is here seldom omitted, at a certain *Cabaret* in the middle of this *Paradise*; where the forbidden Fruits are certain trifling *Tarts*, *Neats-Tongues*, *Salacious-Meats*, and bad *Rhenish*; for which the *Galants* pay sauce, as indeed they do at all such Houses throughout *England*; for they think it is a piece of Frugality beneath them, to Bargain, or Accompt, for what they Eat in any place, however unreasonably imposed upon; But thus, those mean Fellows are (as I told your Lordship) enriched; Begger, and insult over the *Gentlemen*. I am assur'd that this particular *Host*.
Has

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Has purchased, within few Years, 5000 *Livers* of annual rent; and well he may, at the rates these *Prodigials* pay, whereas, in *France*, a *Gentleman* esteems it no Diminution to Manage even these expences with Reason. But, My Lord, it is now late, and time to quit this *Garden*, and to tell you, that I think there is not a more Illustrious sight in the World, than to meet the *Divinities* of our Court, marching up the long Walk in the *Thuilleries*, where the pace is so stay'd and grave, the encounters so regular and decent; and where those who feed their Eyes with their Beauties, and their Ears with the Charming *Accent* of their Discourse, and Voices, need not those refreshments of the other *Senses*, finding them all to be so taken up with these.

I was curious before my return, and when I had Conquer'd some difficulties of the *Language*, and *Customs*, to visit their *Judicatures*, where, besides, that few of their *Gownmen*, are to be compared to those of the *Robe* in our *Palais* for Elocution, and the

Where they plead as at Westminster.

Of the
Pleading
amongst
the Law-
yers.

the talent of well speaking ; so neither do they at all exceed them, in the forms and colours of their *Pleading* ; but (as before I spake of their *Rallery*) supply the defects of the *Cause*, with flat, insipid, and grossly abusing one another ; a thing to trifling, and misbecoming the gravity of *Courts* (where the *Lawyers* take Liberty to Jest Mens Estates away, and yet avow their Avarice) that I have much admired at the temper of the Judges, and their remissness in reforming it : There was a Young Person, whom at my being there, was very much cried up for his Abilities, and in whom I did not observe that usual intemperance, which I but now reproved ; and certainly, it springs either for want of those Abilities, which the *Municipal* Laws of this *Nation* (consisting most of them in *Customs* like our *Normandy*, whose *Ancient Dialect* their Books yet retain) are so little apt to furnish ; or the defect of those advantages, which the more polished *Sciences* afford us, without which, it is impossible to be good Orators,

Orators, and to maintain their Discourses without diversion, to that vile nency.

But, what is infinitely agreeable in this Country, are the *Bowling-Greens*, and the *Races*, which are really such pleasures abroad, as we have nothing approaching them in *France*, and which I was extreamly delighted in; but the *Verdure* of the *Country*, and delicious *Downs*, are what gives them this preheminance, and indeed they are to be valued, and do in my self, very much commute for the loss of that glorious *Planet*, which ripens our *Vines* in *France*.

Of the
Bowling-
Greens &
Races.

The *Horses*, and the *Dogs*, their incomparable *Parks*, of *Fallow-deer*, and *Laws of Chase*, I extreamly approve of; but upon other occasions, all *Englishmen* ride so fast upon the *Road*, that you would swear there were some *Enemy* in the *Ariere*; and all the *Coaches* in *London* seem to drive for *Mid-Wives*.

Of the
Horses, &
Dogs,
Parks, &c.

But what did much more afflict me,

F

is

A Journey to England.

They
don't
know the
use of
With-
Drawing-
Rooms.

is their Ceremony at *Table*, where every Man is obliged to sit till all have done Eating, however, their Appetites differ, and to see the formality of the *Voider*, which our *With-Drawing-Rooms* in *France*, are made to prevent, and might so here, if they knew the use of them, to be, that every Man may rise when he has din'd, without the least indecency, and leave the *Servers* to their Office.

Woman
sometimes
Silent.

I have now but a Word to add, and that is the tediousness of *Visits*, which they make here so long, that it is a very Tyranny, to sit to so little purpose: If the Persons be *Ladies*, that are strangers, it is to look upon each other, as if they had never seen any of their own *Kind* before, and here indeed the *Virtue* of their *Sex* is Eminent: For they are as silent and fixt as *Statues*; or if they do talk, it is with Censure, and sufficient confidence: So difficult it is, to *Entertain* with a grace, or to observe a *Mediocrity*.

In

A Journey to England, &c. 35

In sum, My Lord, I found so many *particulars*, worthy of reproof in all those *Remarks*, which I have been able to make, That to render you a veritable account of *England*, as it is at present, I must pronounce, with the *Poet*.

Difficile est Satyram non scribere.

And shall defer what I have further to add till the return of my Lord Ambassador.

F I N I S.

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